

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A telephone terminal equipment comprising:

a first connection unit that connects a line to a terminal equipment of first party which is a terminal equipment of an intended party for an audio call through one of the plural networks including a telephone line network and Internet network,

a second connection unit that connects a line to a terminal equipment of second party while the line to the terminal equipment of first party is connected by the first connection unit when the terminal equipment of second party responds to a call provided through one of the plural networks based on a command to call the terminal equipment of second party which is different from the terminal equipment of first party,

an audio relay unit that relays audio signals between the terminal equipments of first and second parties by outputting audio signals input from one of the terminal equipments of first and second parties to the other terminal equipment after the lines to the terminal equipments of first and second parties are connected by the first and second connection units.

2. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a designation command unit that designates the terminal equipment of second party to an user of the telephone terminal equipment, and commands to call the terminal equipment of second party to the second connection unit

wherein the second connection unit calls the terminal equipment of second party based on the command provided by the designation command unit while the line to the terminal equipment of first party is connected by the first connection unit.

3. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, wherein the second connection unit calls the terminal equipment of second party based on command signals input from the terminal equipment of first party to designate the terminal equipment of second party for a call.

4. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 3, wherein the second connection unit calls the terminal equipment of second party based on predetermined DTMF signals input as command signals from the terminal equipment of first party while the line to the terminal equipment of first party is connected by the first connection unit.

5. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 4, wherein the second connection unit calls a terminal equipment identified by one of kinds and combinations of DTMF signals as the terminal equipment of second party.

6. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first connection unit connects the line to the terminal equipment of first party in case the user does not execute an operation to respond to an incoming call received from the terminal equipment of first party.

7. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, further comprising an audio signal output unit to output predetermined audio signals to the terminal equipment of first party until the terminal equipment of second party responds to the call provided by the second connection unit.

8. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 7, wherein the audio signal output unit outputs audio signals of on-hold tone used to place an audio call on hold.

9. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 7, wherein the audio signals output unit outputs audio signals indicating that the second connection unit is calling the terminal equipment of second party.

10. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, wherein the audio relay unit outputs audio signals input from the terminal equipment of first party, after converting the signals into a format transmittable to a second network to the terminal equipment of second party, to the terminal equipment of second party through the second network, in case a first network to the terminal equipment of first party and the second network are different, and outputs audio signals input from the terminal equipment of second party to the terminal equipment of first party through the first network after converting the signals into a transmittable format to the first network.

11. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, wherein the audio relay unit initiates relaying audio signals at the same time when the line to the terminal equipment of second party is connected by the second connection unit.

12. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, wherein the audio relay unit initiates relaying sound signals after the line to the terminal equipment of second party is connected by the second connection unit, and when predetermined condition for relay initiation is met.

13. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 12, wherein the audio relay unit initiates relaying audio signals determining the condition for relay initiation is met when a user executes predetermined operation.

14. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 12, wherein the audio relay unit initiates relaying audio signals determining the condition for relay initiation is met when the telephone terminal equipment inputs predetermined control signals from one of the terminal equipments of first and second parties.

15. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 14, wherein the audio relay unit initiates relaying audio signals determining the condition for relay initiation is met when the telephone terminal equipment inputs predetermined DTMF signals from one of the terminal equipments of first and second parties.

16. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a first termination detection unit,

wherein the first connection unit disconnects the line to the terminal equipment of first party when the first termination detection unit detects a termination of an audio call, and

wherein the second connection unit disconnects the line to the terminal equipment of second party after the line to the terminal equipment of second party is connected when the first termination detection unit detects a termination of an audio call.

17. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 16, wherein the first termination detection unit detects a termination of an audio call by an input of termination signals indicating a termination of an audio call from the terminal equipment of first party.

18. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a second termination detection unit,

wherein the second connection unit disconnects the line to the terminal equipment of second party when the second termination detection unit detects a termination of an audio call, and

wherein the first connection unit disconnects the line to the terminal equipment of first party after the second connection unit connects the line to the terminal equipment of second party when the second termination detection unit detects a termination of an audio call.

19. (Original) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 18, wherein the second termination detection unit detects a termination of an audio call by an input of termination signals indicating a termination of an audio call from the terminal equipment of second party.

20. (Original) A storage medium for storing a terminal control program for use in a computer system to execute a various steps of a procedure to achieve an audio call by inputting/outputting sound corresponding to audio signals transferred from one of plural networks including a telephone network and an Internet network, the program comprising:

a first connection procedure that connects a line to a terminal equipment of first party which is terminal equipment of an intended party through one of the plural networks,

a second connection procedure that connects a line to a terminal equipment of second party, while the line to the terminal equipment of first party is connected in the first connection procedure, when the terminal equipment of second party responds to a call corresponding to a command to call the terminal equipment of second party which is a different terminal equipment from the terminal equipment of first party, and

a audio relay procedure that relays audio signals between the terminal equipments of first and second parties by outputting audio signals input from one of the terminal equipments of first and second parties to the other terminal equipment after the lines to the terminal equipments of first and second parties are connected in the first and second connection procedures.

21. (Original) An audio call method comprising the steps of:
connecting a line to a terminal equipment of first party which is a terminal equipment of an intended party for an audio call through one of the plural networks including a telephone line network and Internet network,

connecting a line to a terminal equipment of second party while the line to the terminal equipment of first party is connected when the terminal equipment of second party responds to a call provided through one of the plural networks based on a command to call the terminal equipment of second party which is different from the terminal equipment of first party, and

relaying audio signals between the terminal equipments of first and second parties by outputting audio signals input from one of the terminal equipments of first and second parties to the other terminal equipment after the lines to the terminal equipments of first and second parties are connected.

22. (New) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 10, wherein the line to the terminal equipment of first party is an audio connection between the telephone terminal equipment and a terminal equipment of a public telephone line network, and the line to the terminal equipment of second party is an audio connection between the telephone terminal equipment and a terminal equipment of the internet network.

23. (New) The telephone terminal equipment as set forth in claim 1, wherein the line to the terminal equipment of first party establishes an audio call between a user of the telephone terminal equipment and the first party, and the line to the terminal equipment of second party establishes an audio call between the user of the telephone terminal equipment and the second party, and

wherein the line to the terminal equipment of first party and the line to the terminal equipment of second party establish a three-way audio call among the user of the telephone terminal equipment, the first party and the second party.